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BRADFORD FESTIVAL.

THE Bradford Triennial Musical Festival commenced on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., and continued during the three following days. The first performance took place on the evening of Tuesday, when the *Creation* was given, under the direction of Mr. Costa. The principal performers were Madame Clara Novello, Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Mr. S. Reeves, Mr. Santley, and Signor Belletti. It is needless to observe upon the excellence of the solo singing, for with such talent it could not be otherwise. The applause awarded to Madame Novello for her exquisite performance of "With Verdure Clad," and to Mr. S. Reeves for his refined execution of the tenor solo, "In native worth," was unbounded. Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Signor Belletti, and Mr. Santley, also received their due share of praise. The Yorkshire chorus-singers have always maintained a deserved celebrity, and on this occasion they manifested their usual vigour and precision. Mr. Brownsmith presided at the organ. The Music Hall is calculated to hold 4000 persons, and there could not have been fewer than 3000 present. The three-shilling seats were particularly well filled.

The morning performance, on Wednesday, comprised Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum*, and a selection from *Judas Maccabæus*, all of which was admirably performed. In addition to the before-named principal singers, there were also Miss Palmer, Mrs. Sunderland, and Miss Freeman. About 2000 persons were present.

A miscellaneous concert was given in the evening, when Mdle. Titiens, Madame Nantier Didiée, and Signori Giuglini and Badiali, were engaged, and the other solo singers also contributed to the success of the concert. Miss Arabella Goddard was greatly applauded in two pianoforte pieces which she performed. A part-song and a madrigal were sung by the chorus, who well sustained the reputation of Yorkshire. The programme contained twenty-two pieces, vocal and instrumental, which eight encores extended to thirty, but the entertainment proceeded with uniform regularity. Nothing was omitted, and nothing sung out of its place. The band at this Festival, which was comprised almost entirely of the orchestra of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, was in every respect perfect, the forte and piano passages being brought out with excellent effect.

On Thursday, Mendelssohn's oratorio, *St. Paul*, won fresh laurels from the Bradford chorus-singers, and their precision and general efficiency elicited unanimous acknowledgment. In the band, no amount of praise would be excessive. The execution of the music by them will be remembered as one of the most striking events of this Festival. The solo singers were Madame Novello, the tones of whose clear voice in "Jerusalem, Jerusalem!" had a thrill in them which might be denominated "heavenly." Madame Sherrington, who shared the soprano music with Madame Novello, proved herself worthy the distinction of being associated with that justly-esteemed artiste. Miss Palmer, Mr. S. Reeves, Mr. W. Cooper, Signor Belletti, and Mr. Santley, contributed to make this one of the finest performances ever heard of the oratorio of *St. Paul*.

The miscellaneous concert in the evening was even more successful than the first. The music was chiefly Italian, and the singers from the Drury Lane Opera took part as before. Miss Arabella Goddard's performance of Beethoven's symphony, *Eroica*, and Leopold de Meyer's fantasia on airs from the *Trovatore*, elicited immense applause.

On Friday, the *Messiah* concluded the sacred portion of this Festival; and there was another miscellaneous concert in the evening, winding up with great eclat the performances of the four days.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

We would request those who send us country newspapers, wishing us to read particular paragraphs, to mark the passage, by cutting a slip in the paper near it.

The late hour at which Advertisements reach us, interferes much with their proper classification.

Colored Envelopes are sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.

Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence, otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance. All communications must be authenticated by the proper name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

Musical Contributions.—We take this opportunity of thanking many of our friends for their kindness in offering us musical compositions for publication, but it is right to state that it would be quite inconsistent with our arrangements to entertain any offer of this nature.

Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

BIRMINGHAM.—On the 26th of July, the second annual soirée of the young men and friends of the Carr's Lane Congregation took place. The programme, which was sacred, consisted of a selection from Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Rink, Novello, and Costa's *Eli*. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. William Masefield, jun., who presided at the harmonium, and performed several solos with taste and skill. The vocal part passed off well. The audience was numerous and respectable.

BRISTOL.—A performance of Mozart's Twelfth Mass took place on the 24th of July, at St. Mary's Catholic Chapel, for the benefit of the Society of St. Vincent of Paul. Mr. Sircom, the able organist of the chapel, did ample justice to his part, and the Mass was conducted by Mr. Saunders with precision and intelligence. Mdme. Guerrabella sang the principal soprano part in excellent style; the offertory was expressly arranged for her by Mr. Saunders. The music was well performed throughout.

CAPE TOWN.—The members of the Choral Society held their first "Rehearsal" in the Normal School, New Street, on the 31st of May. The selections made were good, and exceedingly well performed. The society has advanced greatly of late, and it may yet do much to popularise vocal music if the members continue to hold together as they have done hitherto. These musical entertainments, in connection with such a society as the Mechanics' Institution, are improving the taste, and promoting the better feeling of the working classes. Great credit is due to Mr. Ashley and his coadjutors for the good they are doing. The selections were mostly from Romberg's fine and well-known composition, the *Lay of the Bell*. The remainder were all from English authors and composers, such as Purcell, the Earl of Mornington, Sir H. Bishop, Callcott, Glover, and Pearsall. The rehearsal, though "private," was well attended, and highly appreciated.

CHARD.—The Harmonic Society gave their usual monthly rehearsal, at the Royal Assembly Rooms, on the 17th ult. The selection was of a secular character, and the performance, under the direction of Mr. J. F. Tozer, organist of the church, reflected great credit on the members.

CHEL TENHAM.—On the 18th ult., the second fête, under the direction of Messrs. Hale and Son, was given at the Old Wells. Several eminent singers were engaged for the concert, which commenced at 5 o'clock, including Mdle. Piccolomini, Mdle. Borchardt, Signor Belart, and Signor Aldighieri. At a subsequent period of the evening, Mrs. Howard Paul gave her famous imitation of Mr. S. Reeves, and the entertainment closed with some excellent fireworks, which gave general satisfaction.